(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) No long term action plan as embodied in new Agriculture Policy for agricultural development is currently under the consideration of the Government.

Accidents at unmanned Rail Level Crossings

*159. SHRI ASHOK MITRA:
SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: (a) the number of accidents at unmanned rail level crossings in the country during five years since 1991-92 and the number and nature of casualties caused by such accidents;

(b) the total number of unmanned level crossings and their State-wise break-up;

(c) the total estimated capital and maintenance costs to convert these unmanned crossings into manned crossings;

(d) whether any modern technique is being introduced to warn the vehicles crossing such unmanned gates; and

(e) the targets set for manning railway crossings during 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):

(a) The number of accidents of unmanned level crossings and casualties therein during the last five years is as under:

Year	No. of Accidents	Killed	Injured
1991-92	38	93	262
1992-93	35	72	78
1993-94	54	146	273
1994-95	54	147	115
1995-96	52	117	162

(b) State-wise break-up of unmanned level crossings is as under:

Year	No. of Accidents	Killed	Injured
Andhra Pradesh	1610	Mizoram	1
Assam	1045	Orissa	1137
Bihar	2062	Punjab	1056
Delhi	7	Rajasthan	2268
Gujarat	2948	Tamil Nadu	1572
Haryana	520	Tripura	37
Himachal Pradesh	293	Uttar Pradesh	3727
Jammu & Kashmir	36	West Bengal	1608
Karnataka	1059	Chandigarh	2
Kerala	231	Pondicherry	9
Madhya Pradesh	1810	Goa	2
Maharashtra	1650	Nagaland	1
Manipur	1		
Total : 24,692			

(c) The initial capital cost for manning all these unmanned crossings would be around Rs. 1500 crores. Besides, maintenance cost would be around Rs. 200 crores per annum.

(d) A train actuated radio-based warning system, designed and developed by M/s Bharat Electronics Ltd., is under trial at a few level crossings.

(e) it has been decided that no new unmanned level crossing will be added and the sensitive unmanned level crossings will be, on a planned basis, after due prioritisation, converted into manned level crossings with the help of the State Governments who have to invest the initial capital cost.

Eligibility Test for Lecturership

*160. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: (a) whether the University Grants Commission has accredited seven State Governments to conduct the eligibility test for the posts of lecturers in colleges of various universities, provided they observe certain conditions imposed on them;

(b) if so, what are the names of these seven States;

(c) whether the UGC had taken this decision after holding a series of meetings on the recommendations of the UGC Committee; and

(d) what are the other steps being taken by University Grants Commission in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) and (b) The State level Eligibility Tests in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana,